

Ibrahim Mohammed Ali Fast Recovering After Cardiac Surgery; Receives Flood of EPP Messages

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Ibrahim Mohammed Ali, a veteran leader with remarkable role in the Eritrean struggle for freedom and democracy and a key founding-member of the Eritrean People's Party (EPP), is in good condition and recovering fast after a successful cardiac surgery he had in Damascus, Syria, on 18 August 2009. In a phone talk with EPP Chairman, Woldeyesus Ammar, Ibrahim said he is feeling well and conveyed his gratitude to all well wishers in EPP and other fraternal organizations.



The operation, which took place at the renowned Al Bassel Heart Institute of Damascus, lasted for four hours, and the patient spent a few days under intensive care before he was moved to a normal hospital setting. As of the early days of the operation, the ever alert Ibrahim expressed high regard and gratitude to Dr. Majed Othman, the chief cardiac surgeon and director general of Al Bassel Heart Institute, for his able handling of the surgery with his entire team and their continued concern to help.

The EPP Chairman said the party leadership is still receiving a flood of messages from EPP members congratulating both Dr. Majed Othman and his patient, Ibrahim Mohammed Ali, for the successful operation. It has been learned that the EPP leadership is compiling the messages of well wishers for record to honour this leading figure in the Eritrean political landscape.

Born in Nakfa in the mid-1940s, Ibrahim joined the Eritrean Liberation Front as full-time cadre in 1967, and he is still in the struggle - since 1991 engaged for change and democratization. During the past four decades, he held various top leadership posts, the latest of these being the chairmanship of the ELF-RC between 1995 and 2001, and between 2002 and 2008 serving as the Speaker of the legislative body of the ELF-RC (i.e. the Revolutionary Council). In recent years, Ibrahim suffered a mild stroke which forced him to reduce active leadership involvement in the EPP that was founded in the summer of 2008. Known for his integrity and political consistency, it was around Ibrahim Mohammed Ali that the ELF-RC was regrouped

after the ELF crisis in 1982, and was always considered as the actual and spiritual leader of the ELF-RC and the party that sprang from its bowels.